



NEWS FROM THE OFFICE OF  
ULSTER COUNTY COMPTROLLER  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CHECK THE BOX**  
**Not All Clothing Donation Bins Are Equal**

Kingston, NY (December 14, 2015) – Ulster County Comptroller Elliott Auerbach joins the New York State Office of the Attorney General regarding for-profit companies masquerading as charities while operating clothing donation bins in Ulster County. In a recent report, Auerbach found that a large number of the donation bins appear to be for charitable purposes when in fact most of the proceeds from the donated items are benefitting the company that operates the container. In addition, the Comptroller's report noted the unregulated placement of many of these roadside collection boxes in parking lots and street corner throughout the towns and villages of Ulster County.

"In case you have not noticed it, we are being inundated by clothing boxes that have begun littering our landscape. Many municipalities have been willing to tolerate them assuming that they have been put in place to serve the public good, but our report indicates that not all of these boxes are created equal," Auerbach pointed out.

The Comptroller has offered sample legislation to the Ulster County Legislature to ensure that the public is made aware of both the operator and the fate of the donations. "Our local laws should require more disclosure and transparency, with each donation bin clearly labeled displaying who the organization is and where the proceeds go," Auerbach said. "In addition, the towns and villages may want to consider regulations regarding placement and maintenance of these bins."

The Report can be found on the Comptroller's website at [www.youreyesonulster.com](http://www.youreyesonulster.com) and on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/ulstercomptrollerauerbach](https://www.facebook.com/ulstercomptrollerauerbach)

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